Seasick Technician Sparks All-Out Rescue

A combined sea-air operation will be launched at dawn today to bring ashore a meteorological technician suffering from chronic seasickness aboard the weathership Stonetown at its stormy mid-Pacific station.

Official sources last night could only identify the stricken man as a Mr. Shurie.

His replacement will be flown by Canso of the 121 Communications and Rescue squadron from Patricia Bay to Sandspit in the Queen Charlottes.

Naval headquarters at Esquimalt meanwhile has dispatched the frigate HMCS New Waterford which is on exercises in the area to pick up the replacement at Skidegate Inlet on Graham Island. She is due to rendezvous with the Stonetown sometime Thursday afternoon.

Department of transport district marine agent Col. Keith Dixon said last night the sick man was making his first tour of duty at weather station Papa.

The Stonetown took up its lonely station 1,000 miles west of Victoria after sailing from this port on March 3. Since that time she has bucked "typically March weather," said Col. Dixon.

T. H. Ryan, spokesman for the weather office in Vancouver, said the weathership normally carries five meteorological technicians.

"But this trip the Stonetown sailed short-handed. Only four went out and with the staff cut down to three we have to replace the sick man," he said.

New Waterford is expected to bring him back to hospital here by Sunday.

LOCAL NEWS

The Daily Colonist.

(ESTABLISHED 1858)

CLASSIFIED

SECOND NEWS SECTION — VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1959 — PAGE SEVENTEEN

Builders

Pact Means Two Years Of Peace

Seven construction unions in Greater Victoria have agreed to a two-year wage settlement calling for annual increases of 12 cents an hour.

Settlement was announced last night in a joint statement by the unions and Victoria Building Industries Exchange representing contractors.

The new contract will become effective on April 1 with a 12-cent-across-the-board increase. The second increase of 12 cents becomes effective April 1, 1960. The The two-year contract expires March 31, 1961.

Negotiations on behalf of the unions were handled by a joint industries committee representing seven building trades. Affected are the carpenters, laborers, teamsters, painters, roofers, floor layers and brick layers.

The joint statement said clauses and conditions peculiar to each individual trade will be discussed during further negotiations aimed at getting contracts signed before expiry date of the present contract on March 31.

The blanket offer by contractors is expected to ensure labor peace in the local construction industry for the next two years.

Al Staley and Don Bushell represented building trades in negotiations. Tom Harvey was spokesman for the contractors.

Bennett Plans Usual Rest

Premier Bennett will start his usual post-session rest from the day-to-day grind of his office by visiting various parts of B.C. before the end of the month. Early next month, he will start a full-fledged holiday at an undisclosed location.

Top Servants Set Meeting

Executive of the B.C. Government Employees' Association will meet early next week to consider appealing the injunction barring picketing of government buildings, general secretary E. P. O'Connor said yesterday.

Mr. O'Connor said the association was awaiting a report from its lawyers.

Spring's a Time of Flowers and Rocks and Walks

Victoria's warm spring weather is causing wild flowers to bloom around the city. Linda Gregg, 10, 5379 Parker, a junior member of Victoria Natural History Society, found this satin flower on Mill Hill on a club outing during the weekend.

Biggest find of the whole hike was this rare saxifrage plant found by 13-year-old Trevor Givvens, 4986 West Saanich Road. Regular hikes are held under the guidance of Freeman (Skipper) King. Many of the children have their own collections.

Natural history includes more than just wild flowers—it includes the rock specimen containing feldspar which was found by Ron Hoyer, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Hoyer, 1710 Richmond, during the field trip.—(Colonist photos)

Commission Named

Two Ministers BCPC Chiefs

Complete makeup of the new five-man B.C. Power Commission was announced last night by Premier Bennett.

Named to serve with Dr. Hugh L. Keenleyside as their chairman were Frederick A. Smith, Edmonton, a chartered accountant; Arthur Lee, Trail, an engineer; Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan and Lands and Forests Minister R. G. Williston.

The new commission will take office April 1, the premier said, although Dr. Keenleyside will not arrive in Victoria until April 11.

Dr. Keenleyside as previously reported in the Colonist will have a salary of $20,000; Mr. Smith and Mr. Lee will receive $12,000 each, and the two ministers no extra salary, the premier said.

Mr. Kiernan will be deputy chairman.

"This gives us a good, balanced commission," the premier said, "with an accountant experienced in utilities, a practical engineer, and a close contact with the government.

The five-man commission thus completed will replace a three-man commission composed of T. H. Crosby, chairman, and Dr. H. J. McLeod, both of whom had long planned to retire at the end of this month, and H. H. Griffin, who resigned in disagreement with government finance policy after general manager H. Lee Briggs attacked the government and was dismissed last fall.

"I want to say how pleased I am with the services of Mr. Crosby and Dr. McLeod," Premier Bennett said. "They have rendered great service to this province."

Mr. Smith, 61, was appointed controller of the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company in 1928 after serving with firms of chartered accountants since 1919. In 1933 he was appointed controller, also, of Northwestern Utilities Ltd. and Canadian Utilities Ltd., and in 1956 was appointed vice-president in charge of finance for all three companies.

Mr. Lee, born in Guelph in 1895, came to B.C. in 1907 and began his electrical career in Vancouver in 1912.

For a number of years he has been general superintendent in charge of design, purchasing, construction and maintenance and substations, as well as operating maintenance of the entire system including seven powerhouses, for the West Kootenay Power & Light Company at Trail.

Both will come to live in Victoria, the premier said.

Dan Ekman Premier's Assistant

Premier W. A. C. Bennett last night announced the appointment of a Vancouver public relations man and former newspaper man, G. Daniel Ekman, as his executive assistant.

The post has been vacant since Ronald Worley resigned at the end of last summer and went into private business.

Mr. Ekman, 33, was born in Telkwa, B.C., and educated there and in Vancouver. He was a reporter, editor and columnist for Vancouver papers from 1943 to 1957 and since then has been engaged in public relations.

His appointment will be effective April 1.

For Oak Bay

Larger Council Urged

Oak Bay councillors are considering a suggestion that two more members should be added to council, making a total of eight councillors and a reeve.

The matter will be dealt with at the next meeting of the council, April 6.

Coun. Geoffrey Ellis made the suggestion that the municipality should ask the provincial government for permission to increase membership as he felt councillors were "being spread too thin" among committees.

"One of us is going to be away three months this year and another will be away a month," he said. "With all these new committees that are being formed, somebody has to represent the council."

Reeve George Murdoch told councillors he felt that the first three months of any council year were the busiest and that the situation would ease once the Oak Bay budget is passed.

Coun. Fred Hawes, six years on the council, commented: "I don't know when we have been faced with so much. There are so many things coming up."

"The work schedule was particularly heavy during the first month," Coun. Gordon Elworthy said. "I wasn't sure what I was getting into."

Survey To Aid Chest

Canadian Welfare Council will conduct a free survey of Greater Victoria next month and offer suggestions to help the Community Chest in this year's fund-raising drive, it was announced last night during the Chest's annual meeting at Spencerhouse, 1951 Cook. (See other stories on Page 12.)

The survey will be conducted by George E. Hart, of Ottawa, executive secretary of the community funds division of the Canadian Welfare Council, who is expected to arrive in Victoria on April 13 and spend one week here.

Top Victoria Orator

Victor in last night's Golden Gavel final at city hall is Andrew Wong, 934 Queens. "I can't believe it," he said, when the judges announced his talk on YMCA had won top award in public speaking among the Victoria Toastmaster Clubs and high school evening classes.—(Colonist photo)

1959 'Queen' Contest 'Biggest in Canada'

The 1959 Miss Victoria competition — slow to attract entries at first — will be the biggest queen contest in Canada, Junior Chamber of Commerce spokesmen claimed last night.

With the closing date for entries set at April 1, 27 entries have already been received and another 10 girl are known to be entering. And still more are expected to enter before the deadline.

Only last week Jaycees were preparing to sign up contestants for the contest because of the apathy of organizations in sponsoring entries.

Entries in the Miss PNE and Miss Canada contests are limited to 30 girls. There is no limit on the number of girls who may enter the Miss Victoria contest.

Pre-judging, to reduce the number of girls to eight finalists, will be held April 3. Judges for the contest are Mrs. Dorothy Wrotnowski, Colonist social editor; Miss Elizabeth Forbes, Ted Bissland, Ald. Geoffrey Edgelow and Capt. J. C. Gray.

The girl chosen Miss Victoria will win a $100 scholarship, an evening gown valued at more than $300 and an all-expenses-paid trip to take part in the Miss Canada contest at Hamilton, Ont.

The girl chosen as the first princess will represent Victoria in the Miss PNE contest in Vancouver.

The Miss Victoria contest is limited to girls between 18 and 26 years. Full details are obtainable from William Hughes, EV 3-1106 during the day and EV 3-2089 evenings.

Parking Plan Speech Topic

Two Victoria civic engineers, James C. Garnett and technical planner Roderick Clack will discuss the downtown improvement plan of parking garages and pedestrian malls Thursday at 8 p.m.

The public meeting, sponsored by the Victoria branch of the Community Planning Association of Canada, will be held in the Business and Professional Women's Club rooms, 904 Government.

Applications Made

Labor Eyes Saanich Site For $120,000 Headquarters

Victoria Labor Council has plans for a new $120,000 headquarters building at the corner of Cloverdale and Oak Street in Saanich.

Saanich council last night heard an application by A. W. Toone on behalf of Victoria Building Co-operative Union to purchase one acre of land at this location for the sum of $6,000.

Mr. Toone's letter said the co-op planned to build a modern office building costing about $120,000 with 20 offices and four halls of various sizes, plus parking area.

Reeve George Chatterton said the property sought by the co-op was earmarked for park use, but municipal planner Antony Parr felt the site was more suitable for an office building.

Council took the letter to mean the purchase price would have to include filling in a ditch running across the property. It tabled the application for further consideration after hearing reports from municipal engineer Neville Life and assessor Jack Lindsay.

Victoria Building Co-operative Union was formed for the purpose of disposing of present labor headquarters on Pandora and acquiring a new building.

Religious Grounds

Union Objector Needn't Be Fired

An arbitration board has handed down a unanimous ruling that there is nothing in the working agreement which compels Saanich municipality to fire an employee who refuses to join the union on religious grounds.

Thomas Ormerod, 520 Lotbiniere, a 28-year-old Christadelphian employed as a clerk-accountant, came under fire from the Saanich Municipal Employees Association for refusing to join its ranks.

"My interpretation of the Bible forbids Christians to belong to a union on the grounds it is a worldly association," Mr. Ormerod said.

The employees association applied for a board of arbitration to settle the dispute, claiming under terms of its contract with the municipality, Mr. Ormerod must either join the association or lose his job.

The municipality refused to fire him and he has been working about a year without joining the association.

The arbitration board confined its deliberations to whether the municipality must fire an employee who refused to join the union.

Its unanimous decision was that while the working agreement said employees shall join the union within 30 days, the contract didn't outline appropriate action in case of an employee who refused to join.

Chairman of the arbitration board was Edward Pearlman, T. P. O'Grady for the union and N. A. Swainson for employers.

Parking Boats In Parks Out

Oak Bay council last night moved to outlaw the storage of boats or canoes in municipal parks, except for emergency repairs.

Councillors adopted a suggestion from police chief Robert Smith that the existing parks bylaw be amended to stop the practice.

Alteration of the bylaw will give Oak Bay police authority to prosecute owners of craft left in parks for storage.

Saanich Plans To Try Again

Saanich council last night decided to resubmit its application for a $28,000 provincial grant to build a road into the Cadboro Bay Park beach development.

The application will go through Capital Improvement District Commission, which last night formally advised council that its original request for the road grant was turned down by the provincial government.

Seen in Passing

RAY JOHNSON

Ray Johnson mowing the boulevard in front of his apartment building on Yates Street. (He's retired now after driving Vancouver Island Coach Lines buses for 30 years and other buses for 11 years before that for other companies. He and his wife, **Jean**, have two daughters, **Geraldine** in Victoria and **Toria** in Calgary. His hobby is gardening.) . . . **Nessie Hart** driving along Fort Street. . . . **Janet Ritchie** telling **Jean Gardner** about her diet. . . . **John Pettit** and **Ken MacLeod** attending a lecture. **Edna Reedyk** writing out a receipt. . . . **Bill Keast** talking on the telephone. . . . **Alma Buckingham** walking along the sunny side of the street. . . . **Dick Paul** getting a ride. . . . **Max Chalk** talking about band music.